

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CRIM. NO. 19-20726

HON. PAUL D. BORMAN

v.

D-2 VANCE PEARSON,

Defendant.

STIPULATION FOR CONTINUANCE OF SENTENCING DATE

The defendant and the undersigned attorneys stipulate to the adjournment of sentencing in this matter to April 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. for the following reasons:

- 1) The unprecedented and exigent circumstances created by COVID-19 and related coronavirus health conditions have created a health emergency throughout the United States that has resulted in widespread societal disruption. Since March 10, 2020, Governor Gretchen Whitmer has declared a state of emergency in Michigan. On March 29, 2020, the Judicial Conference of the United States found that emergency conditions due to the national emergency declared by the President of the United States have materially affected the functioning of the federal courts.
- 2) COVID-19 has infected millions of people across all fifty states, the District

of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, resulting in hundreds of thousands of fatalities.

- 3) In order to slow the spread of the outbreak and lessen the load placed on our healthcare systems, various restrictions have been imposed on access to public facilities and government functions. As part of these efforts, on March 13, 2020, this Court postponed indefinitely most in-court proceedings before district judges and magistrate judges in the Eastern District of Michigan in all criminal and civil cases and matters. *See* Administrative Order 20-AO-021. This Order further reflected the reality that the court staff, the Court Security Officers, and the Marshals Service could not operate or provide access to in-court proceedings without jeopardizing their health and safety.
- 4) On April 10, 2020, this Court issued Administrative Order 20-AO-27, which concluded that court proceedings, including felony sentencings, “cannot be conducted in person without seriously jeopardizing public health and safety.”
- 5) Administrative Order 20-AO-27 authorizes the use of video conferencing and telephone conference for court hearings including felony sentencings under Rule 32 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- 6) In order to conduct a felony sentencing via the use of video or audio

teleconferencing, Administrative Order 20-AO-27 requires the following conditions to be met: (1) “the defendant . . . after consultation with counsel, consents to the use of video teleconferencing or teleconferencing for the proceeding;” and the (2) “presiding judge finds that the proceeding cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice.”

- 7) The defendant, VANCE PEARSON, has not consented and does not consent to the use of teleconferencing for his sentencing proceedings.
- 8) VANCE PEARSON’s decision to adjourn sentencing and withhold consent is both knowingly and voluntarily made. He has discussed this issue thoroughly with his counsel and no coercion or threats have been made to him to adjourn sentencing.

IT IS SO STIPULATED.

MATTHEW SCHNEIDER
United States Attorney

s/MARC M. JOHNSON (with consent)
Attorney for Defendant
120 S. Central, Suite 130
St. Louis, MO 63105
Phone: (314) 862-4332
Email: mjohnson@rsflawfirm.com

s/DAVID A. GARDEY
Assistant United States Attorney
211 W. Fort St., Ste. 2001
Detroit, MI 48226
Phone: (313) 226-9591
Email: david.gardey@usdoj.gov

Dated: January 21, 2021

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D-2 VANCE PEARSON,

Defendant.

_____ /

ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE OF SENTENCING DATE

Upon this Court's consideration of the parties' January 21, 2021 stipulation, Administrative Order 20-AO-027, and the Court being apprised of the circumstances,

IT IS ORDERED that the sentencing in this matter shall be adjourned to April 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Paul D. Borman _____
HON. PAUL D. BORMAN
United States District Judge

Entered: January 21, 2021 _____